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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/913,814	09/19/2002	Glen Patrick Martyn	GJE-6035	4398

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EXAMINER

CHANNAVAJJALA, LAKSHMI SARADA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1615

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/913,814

Applicant(s)

MARTYN ET AL.

Examiner

Lakshmi S. Channavajjala

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 14 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Receipt of amendment and remarks dated 7-11-05 is acknowledged.

New claim 14 has been added. Claims 1-14 are pending.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Newly submitted claim 14 is directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: Instant claim recites a process of producing a freeze-dried composition, which is distinct from the freeze-dried composition.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claim 14 is withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 4,946,684 to Blank et al (Blank).

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Blank discloses a fast dissolving dosage form that rapidly disintegrates in water and has an open matrix comprising mannitol, natural gum, starch etc (see example 1 in col. 2) and the composition is freeze-dried (col. 2, lines 30-55). Thus, Blank anticipates instant claims.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 6,010,719 to Remon et al (Remon).

Remon discloses a free-dried, fast disintegrating composition in the form of tablets comprising a matrix comprising maltodextrin and binders such as cellulose, gum etc (col. 2, lines 35-67). The composition of Remon contains a therapeutic agent and is in the shape of a tablet (examples). Thus, Remon anticipates instant claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 3, 5 and 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over either of US 4,946,684 to Blank et al (Blank) or US 6,010,719 to Remon et al (Remon), as applied to claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9 and 13 above and further in view of US 6,596,298 to Leung et al (Leung).

The teachings of Remon and Blank have been discussed above. Remon or Blank does not teach the claimed pullulan in a fast dissolving matrix.

Leung teaches an edible film forming composition-comprising pullulan, wherein the pullulan film dissolves rapidly to release the essential oils trapped therein (col. 2, lines 63-67 & col. 3, lines 8-11). Further, Leung suggests that in addition to pullulan, other film-forming agents such as HPMC, hydroxyethyl cellulose, PVP, gums, starch

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etc., can be used. Thus, Leung suggests that pullulan and other cellulose, starch or gum type film forming agents as equal in their efficiency to provide a rapid dissolving material to release active agents or medicaments. Accordingly, it would have been obvious for one of an ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention to employ pullulan in place of the rapid dissolving starch, gums, or celluloses or Remon or Blank, because Leung teaches that pullulan is effective in delivering even lower doses of active agents and by forming a thin layer on the oral surfaces and further penetrating into deep pits and fissures of the oral cavity for efficient release of active agents.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

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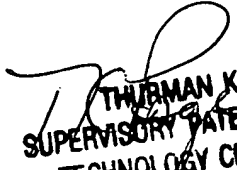
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lakshmi S. Channavajjala whose telephone number is 571-272-0591. The examiner can normally be reached on 9.00 AM -6.30 PM

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thurman K. Page can be reached on 571-272-0602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Lakshmi S Channavajjala
Examiner
Art Unit 1615
September 15, 2005



THURMAN K. PAGE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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